



U.S. CAPITOL
Visitor Center

February 19, 2014

Dear Visitor:

This year, the Architect of the Capitol has begun a multi-year project to repair more than 1,000 cracks and deficiencies in the Capitol Dome caused by age and weather. The exterior of the Dome was constructed 150 years ago from cast iron, and the last major repairs to the exterior were completed in 1960. Conditions are rapidly worsening, and water leaks are threatening the artwork and historic features of the Rotunda. The complete renovation will restore the Dome to its original, inspiring splendor.

Every effort has been made to reduce the impact of the restoration on the business of Congress, including tours of the Capitol. Therefore, most of the work restoring the Dome will be conducted at night and on weekends. In order to allow for the installation of overhead safety netting, it will be necessary to close the Rotunda of the Capitol from **Saturday, April 12, 2014 through Monday, April 28, 2014**. While the Rotunda is unavailable for tours, an alternate tour route will be provided. If you would like to reschedule your tour, please visit www.visitthecapitol.gov.

The Capitol Visitor Center will remain open during the closure of the Rotunda and will continue to offer a variety of special activities.

We appreciate your understanding as we work to restore the Capitol Dome. For more information about the Dome Restoration Project, please visit www.aoc.gov/dome.

Sincerely,

Beth Plemmons
Chief Executive Officer
U.S. Capitol Visitor Center